

What is claimed is:

1. A digital copying machine comprising:
 - means for reading an original image so as to reproduce image data of said original image;
 - means for printing an image according to given image data;
 - means for accessing a removable storage medium; and
 - means for ^Bcontrolling said printing means according to output control data stored in a removable storage medium so that said printing means can print an image according to image data stored in a removable storage medium.
2. The digital copying machine according to claim 1, further comprising a sorter for sorting printed paper, and means for controlling said sorter according to output control data stored in a removable storage medium.
3. The digital copying machine according to claim 1, further comprising a finisher for stapling printed paper, and means for controlling said finisher according to output control data stored in a removable storage medium.
4. The digital copying machine according to claim 2, further comprising means for storing information of functions of said printing means and sorter into a removable storage medium so that said information can be used by an external equipment for generating output control data.
5. The digital copying machine according to claim 3, further comprising means for storing information of functions of said printing means and finisher into a removable storage medium so that

said information can be used by an external equipment for generating output control data.

6. The digital copying machine according to claim 1, wherein the removable storage medium is a memory card.

7. The digital copying machine according to claim 1, wherein compressed image data is stored in a removable storage medium and said machine further comprises means for expanding said compressed image data read out from the removable storage medium.

8. The digital copying machine according to claim 1, further comprising means for erasing said image data and output control data stored in a removable storage medium, after printing said image data.

9. A digital copying machine comprising:

means for reading an original image so as to reproduce image data of said original image;

means for printing an image according to given image data;

means for accessing a removable storage medium; and

means for controlling said image reading means according to read control data stored in a removable storage medium so that said image reading means can read an original image so as to produce image data of said original image to be stored in a removable storage medium.

10. The digital copying machine according to claim 9, further comprising means for storing information of functions of said image reading means into a removable storage medium so that said information can be used by an external equipment for generating said read control data.

11. The digital copying machine according to claim 9, wherein the removable storage medium is a memory card.

12. The digital copying machine according to claim 9, further comprising means for compressing said image data given by said image reading means.

13. An image reader comprising:

an image sensor for converting optical information from an original image into an electric signal;

an analog-to-digital converter for converting said electric signal given by said image sensor into a digital image signal;

an image processor for processing said digital image signal to produce image data;

means for accessing a removable storage medium; and

means for controlling said image processor according to read control data stored in a removable storage medium so that said image processor can produce said image data to be stored in a removable storage medium.

14. An image reader comprising:

an image sensor for converting optical information from an original image into an electric signal;

an analog-to-digital converter for converting said electric signal given by said image sensor into a digital image signal;

an image processor for processing said digital image signal to produce image data;

an interface for transmitting said image data to an external equipment;

means for accessing a removable storage medium; and

means for selecting either transmitting said image data to said external equipment by said interface or storing said image data into a removable storage medium by said accessing means.

15. The image reader according to claim 14, further comprising means for controlling said image processor according to read control data stored in a removable storage medium, so that image data is stored in the removable storage medium.

16. The image reader according to claim 13, further comprising means for storing information of functions of said image processor into a removable storage medium so that said information can be used by an external equipment for generating said read control data.

17. The image reader according to claim 14, further comprising means for storing information of functions of said image processor into a removable storage medium so that said information can be used by an external equipment for generating read control data.

18. The image reader according to claim 13, wherein the removable storage medium is a memory card.

19. The image reader according to claim 14, wherein the removable storage medium is a memory card.

20. The image reader according to claim 13, further comprising means for compressing said image data given by said image processor.

21. The image reader according to claim 14, further comprising means for compressing said image data given by said image processor.

22. A method for performing operations on a digital copying

machine, comprising steps of:

- (a) reading an original image to reproduce image data of said original image;
- (b) retrieving output control data stored in a removable storage medium; and
- (c) printing an image with a printer on a print medium based on the image data according to the output control data.

23. The method of claim 22, further comprising a step of sorting print medium with a sorter according to the output control data.

24. The method of claim 23, further comprising a step of storing information of functions of the printer and the sorter into a removable storage medium so that said information can be used by external equipment for generating output control data.

25. The method of claim 22, further comprising a step of stapling the print medium with a finisher according to the output control data.

26. The method of claim 25, further comprising a step of storing information of functions of the printer and the finisher into a removable storage medium so that said information can be used by external equipment for generating output control data.

27. The method of claim 22, further comprising a step of storing the image data in the removable storage medium.

28. The method of claim 22, further comprising steps of:

- (d) storing image data as compressed image data in the removable storage medium; and

(e) reading out the image data from the removable storage medium by expanding the compressed image data.

29. The method of claim 22, further comprising a step of erasing output control data stored in the removable storage medium, after printing the image data.

30. The method of claim 27, further comprising a step of erasing the image ^adata stored in the removable storage medium, after printing the image data.

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